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of which are original, probably have not come out quite as was intended, and it is not evident that most of them really serve the purpose of the book ; but two or three of them are very attractive.

The Grasses of Uruguay. — Prof. J. Archevalato has recently brought together in a large volume¹ the results of his study of this important group. The first twenty-eight pages are devoted to an organographic account of the grasses, some thirty-five pages are given to a discussion of what is called applied agrostology, and a very full index to both popular and scientific names occupies twenty-two pages. The remainder of the work consists of rather full descriptions of the species. Unfortunately, keys, which would have made the work more usable, have not been provided either for genera or species.

T.

The Metropolitan Parks of Boston. — The last report written by Charles Eliot,² which is very tastefully gotten up, contains much of interest to the landscape architect, many plates which ingeniously indicate by means of folding duplicate foregrounds the means of improving existing features, and an analysis of the commoner types of woodland scenery, which, with the accompanying reproductions of photographs, will also be of use to persons interested in plant communities as viewed by the ecologist.

T.

Botanical Notes. — The vegetation of the white sands east of the San Andreas Mountains, in southern New Mexico, on which Miss Eastwood had previously published, forms the subject of a note in the issue of *Science* of July 29, by Cockerell and Garcia, from which it appears that on these sands, 97% of the substance of which is gypsum (calcium sulphate), a considerable flora flourishes, some of the constituents of which appear to have undergone considerable modification in connection with their environment.

Professor Hitchcock, who for some years has been studying the weeds of Kansas, publishes, as *Bulletin No. 80 of the Experiment Station of the Kansas State Agricultural College*, a paper on their distribution. For the 209 species listed, the geographical distribution

¹ *Las Gramineas Uruguayas*. Montevideo, 1898. 4°, pp. 553, ff. 13 + lxxiii.

² *Vegetation and Scenery in the Metropolitan Reservations of Boston*. A forestry report written by Charles Eliot and presented to the Metropolitan Park Commission, Feb. 15, 1897, by Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot, Landscape Architects. Lamson, Wolfe & Co., Boston, New York, and London, 1898.